

the bill you get every month from your local power company, and those power generators are not to be saddled with the problem of having to explain increased energy costs in some other manner than in the factual manner in which it took place. So I support the resolution. I apologize for bringing up some of these other issues but I think it is important.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I would like to see just once in the newspaper, once by a reporter an article that says, do you know that Washington attorneys have milked the State of Nebraska for \$11 million in the relicensing process and we are no closer to it than we were at the start. I do not want to condemn the Wildlife Federation nor the Whooping Crane Trust Fund, but to the extent that they have not helped solve the problem, they bear some of the cost. If on the other side the power people have not negotiated in good faith, then they ought to be held accountable also because the people of the State of Nebraska do not need those additional costs for no good purpose. I think that one of these days we are going to reach the point where the public will have had enough, and all of this for 50 megawatts of power seems to me to be a little bit extraordinary. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Any other discussion? Senator Elmer, would you like to close?

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank the 30 other members of this body that co-sponsored this resolution. It shows that we have great concern for the resources of our state. Lake McConaughy has a capacity in full storage of 1.8 million acre feet. It is currently just at or slightly below 1.3 million acre feet. The flows that are being requested by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission are to be released from the lake until it is down to 900,000 acre feet, which is one-half of the storage capacity of the lake. At the 900,000 foot level, which we will certainly reach this summer, the boat ramps that the Game and Parks Commission have established will be fully 10 vertical feet above the surface of the lake, vertical feet. The most popular boat ramp at Lake McConaughy is at Macklin (phonetic) Bay. It will be fully one-half mile to the water's edge from the bottom of that boat ramp at the 900,000 acre feet. If the climatic conditions continue and the lake is depleted by the end of 1992, which looks probable, that